



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Delta Science Program 2010 Focused Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP)

Response to public comments received on the 2010 PSP funding recommendations

Response to California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) regarding the recommended funding of Jay Lund's proposal entitled: *Integrating Ecosystem, Flood Control, Agricultural, and Water Supply Benefits: An Application to the Yolo Bypass*.

We appreciate the comments provided by DFG, which brought to our attention the potential overlap of effort and resources with regard to some of the work described in this proposal with work that is currently being planned by the DFG and the Department of Water Resources. We agree that it would be best and most effective if these two efforts were coordinated and that the products from the two studies were timed so that they were usable to Yolo County and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan efforts. The Yolo Bypass is important to both short-term and long-term restoration and water operation decisions for the Delta, and the Delta Science Program is pleased to see both of these studies moving forward with good communication links between the two groups. We will communicate with Jay Lund and fellow proposers to interface with DFG concerning this research to build synergies and remove duplication.

Response to John Hedgepeth regarding the recommendation not to fund James Hobb's proposal entitled: *Basic Biology of the Longfin Smelt: Effects of Salinity and Temperature on Longfin Smelt Spawning, Growth and Survival in a Laboratory Culture*.

Thank you for your letter stressing the need for thermal tolerance research on longfin smelt. All reviewers of the proposal by Hobbs agreed that information on longfin smelt is sorely needed. However, the proposal submitted had technical and structural problems that made it less competitive. One major concern raised by the review was in regard to the collection, holding and raising of longfin smelt to perform the lab studies described in the proposal. A pilot study demonstrating the project investigators' ability to perform these challenging tasks would have boosted the confidence of reviewers. The reviewers felt the proposal was not yet of the quality needed for a funding recommendation.

The comments submitted can be viewed at:

http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta_science_program/research/psp_2010.html

"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."

– CA Water Code §85054